

12-10-2001

# University of Northern Iowa Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, December 10, 2001

University of Northern Iowa. Faculty Senate.

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## **Summary of Faculty Senate Meeting 12/10/01**

### **CALL TO ORDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes of the 11/26/01 as submitted was made by Senator Basom; second by Senator Terlip. Motion passed.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Call for Press Identification
2. Comments from Chair Power
3. Comments from Faculty Chair, Melissa Heston
4. Comments from Provost Podolefsky

### **CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR ITEMS FOR DOCKETING**

794 Approve curriculum change from UNI Curriculum Committee

Motion to docket in regular order as item #706 by Senator Kashef; second by Senator Pohl.

Motion carried.

795 Campus Governance

Motion to docket item #795 as item #707 to the January 28, 2002 meeting by Senator Kashef; second by Senator Kirmani.

Motion passed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Power noted that there will be a Faculty Senate Retreat on Saturday, January 19, 8:30 a.m. at the UNI Museum, and that there will be no Faculty Senate meeting on January 14.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

## CONSIDERATION OF DOCKETED ITEMS

794 796 Approve curriculum change from UNI Curriculum Committee

Motion to approve by Senator Christensen; second by Senator vanWormer.

Vice President Sue Koch provided an overview of the changes for the Senate.

Dr. Koch noted in the summary portion of the curriculum changes that there are two proposed new majors, two proposed new minors, two proposed new intensive study areas in the Doctorate of Education, with one proposed dropped major. She also noted that the MA in Audiology will suspend admissions to their program this spring, anticipating dropping that program when the last students graduate. There are four proposed dropped minors. There are 123 new course proposals with a total of 66 proposed dropped courses, with a balance of 57 additional courses, including all graduate and undergraduate curriculum courses. Twenty-seven of the new courses are from the new MSW, which was approved by the Board some time ago and has been funded by the Iowa legislature. Thirteen of the new courses are internships or practicums, which indicates the continued effort to link students with their future professions and provide more experiential learning.

Discussion followed regarding funding for new courses given UNI's present budget concerns, clarification of a new Marketing course, and the raising of GPA's to enter a number of different programs.

Keith Crew, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology, stated that they will withdraw a proposed M.A. in Criminology due to a lack of course development that was dependent on new faculty being hired. 2004 will be the earliest that that program can be offered. This was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Senator Pohl moved to call for a vote; second by Senator vanWormer. Motion was passed.

The motion on the floor was to approve the curriculum changes as submitted by the UNI Curriculum Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Power thanked the committee and the Senator's for taking the time to look at the materials.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Senator Pohl; second by Senator Herndon.  
Meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

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## **DRAFT FOR SENATOR'S REVIEW**

## **MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MEETING - 12/10/01**

1571

**PRESENT:** Kenneth Basom, Karen Couch Breitbach, David Christensen, Cindy Herndon, Ali Kashef, Syed Kirmani, Susan Moore, Chris Ogbondah, Aaron Podolefsky, Gayle Pohl, Dan Power, Laura Terlip, Katherine van Wormer, Shahram Varzavand, Donna Vinton, Mir Zaman.

**ABSENT:** Melissa Heston, Kay Treiber, Richard Utz, Dhirendra Vajpeyi, and Mir Zaman.

Reginald Green was attending for Tom Romanin.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Power called the Senate to order at 3:19 p.m.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes of the 11/26/01 as submitted was made by Senator Basom; second by Senator Terlip. Motion passed.

## **Comments from Chair Power**

Chair Power stated that he participated in a conference call on December 3 with the President's of the Faculty from Iowa and Iowa State to discuss a number of issues. The Faculty Senate at Iowa State has voted to approve a proposal that a faculty representative should be seated on the Board of Regents and would like us to consider it at a future meeting. A state legislator from Ames will be introducing legislation to that effect. The proposal that Iowa State supported suggested that that person would be an Ad Hoc member of the Regent's. Chair Power commented that if we were to have a member on the Board of Regent's he would rather that that member be a voting member.

Chair Power reported that the Senate at University of Iowa is in the process of trying to form a political action committee



to lobby the legislature this spring on behalf of the University of Iowa to try to increase their funding. UNI's United Faculty will also look at this issue.

He also noted that the MGT report was discussed and the Provost will report on this.

Chair Power stated that there has been some controversy regarding student financial aid at Iowa State and that a special Senate committee has been established to investigate what kind of response should be made to the MGT report there. He noted that UNI may do something similar once that report is released.

Chair Power reported that he has been attending the Ad Hoc meetings on the retirement program. These meetings have been predominately attended by staff and it appears that faculty interests are not being adequately represented in the discussions. This needs to be looked at more closely and perhaps have more discussion at our January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. He may consult at with the Budget Committee to look at some of the implications of the proposed programs.

#### **Comments from Faculty Chair**

Chair Power noted that Melissa Heston was ill and not able to attend today's meeting.

#### **Comments from Provost Podolefsky**

Provost Podolefsky commented that he met with the governor last week on the budget. It appears that the revenue projections will be adequate enough that there will be no further budgets this year. However, the projections for next year may be worse than anticipated and we will be looking at another significant budget cut again. They did ask the governor not to spend next year's entire tuition increase before we receive it. Either salaries will be not funded or salaries will be funded and then there will be a budget cut, probably in the 4-6% range. But at least for this year, we're "out of the woods", except for the larger classes and tighter schedule.

He stated that the MGT report will actually go to the Board in January, which is the first of three parts. This first part was simply to identify areas to study. Once it comes out, we can really see what it looks like. Many of the data elements in the first draft were not well thought through and many of the recommendations in the early drafts may be revised. For example, they did things like include Lang Hall, the Black Box Auditorium and Russell Hall as classrooms, making it look like we had a lot of classroom

space, which thus made classroom utilization was very low. So far all they are doing is coming up with topics to study further, such as low enrollment courses and small majors.

The Provost also noted that he received a FAX that the Board has selected a new Executive Director, Greg Nicols, who has been the Education and Policy Advisor for Governor Vilsak. His appointment will begin sometime next spring.

Chair Power asked the Provost for an update on the search for the Vice President of Finance. Provost Podolefsky responded that he didn't know anything about it. Chair Power also asked if would be possible to have someone present to the Senate the impact of financial aid on the students and tuition increase, possibly at the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, as it would be in the best interest of the Faculty Senate to be updated on how we're trying to help students.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR ITEMS FOR DOCKETING**

794 Approve curriculum change from UNI Curriculum Committee

Motion to docket in regular order as item #706 by Senator Kashef; second by Senator Pohl.

Motion carried.

795 Campus Governance

Chair Power briefed the Senate on the history of this item. Five years ago there was a strategic planning committee that recommended some type of coordinating committee as part of campus governance structure to provide advice to the President on general issues of campus interest. Ira Simet was asked by the Senate to prepare a report on campus governance. Chair Power made a commitment to President Koob that the Senate would try to work with that this year and get it wrapped up, either by having a campus coordinating committee or council, or officially say that the Faculty Senate did not think it was a good idea. Professor Simet has agreed to have his report ready for the January 28, 2002. Senator's will receive that report and a proposed motion prior to that meeting. The proposal that has been recommended involves a thirteen member Coordinating Council, including the President as the chair, with three administration representatives to be determined by the cabinet, three faculty representatives who are elected officers of the faculty (Chair of the Faculty, Chair of the Faculty Senate, and the Chair of the Graduate Faculty), three staff representatives (Chairs of the P&S Council, Merit Staff, and Supervisory and Confidential Employees Council), and three representatives of the students (the President of the Student Government Association, Vice President of the

Student Government Association, and Chair of their Senate), and two ex officio members, the President of the United Faculty and the President of ASME. Chair Power will request the report from Professor Simet so that it can be included in the packet for the Retreat planned for January 19.

Motion to docket item #795 as item #707 to the January 28, 2002 meeting by Senator Kashef; second by Senator Kirmani.

Motion passed.

### **New Business**

Chair Power noted that there will be a Faculty Senate Retreat on Saturday, January 19, 8:30 a.m. at the UNI Museum, with the general topic being strategic planning. There will be no Faculty Senate meeting on January 14.

### **Old Business**

### **Consideration of Docketed Items**

794 706 Approve curriculum change from UNI Curriculum Committee

Motion to approve by Senator Christensen; second by Senator vanWormer.

Vice President Sue Koch provided an overview of the changes for the Senate. The curriculum changes begin in the academic departments, with those changes being forwarded to the College Senates, the Council on Teacher Education, and the General Education Committee, if appropriate, and considered. The Faculty Senate has delegated the role of Curriculum Review at the central level to the Undergraduate Committee on Curriculum and to the Graduate College and its Graduate College Curriculum Committee. Most of this fall has been spent reviewing the graduate and undergraduate curriculum proposed changes that will be considered today. After the Senate's action, the curriculum materials are then sent to the Board of Regent's Office in abbreviated format for review which will become a docket item for the Board this spring, probably in March. Catalog editing will continue here. Once the Board has approved the curriculum packet the 2002-2004 catalog will go to print and be published on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002.

Vice President Koch acknowledged a number of members of the audience who have served on undergraduate committees. Vivian Jackson, Associate Dean, Graduate College, acknowledged those from the graduate committees and thanked them for the



tremendous effort and amount of time spent on the curriculum issue.

Dr. Koch noted in the summary portion of the curriculum changes that there are two proposed new majors, two proposed new minors, two proposed new intensive study areas in the Doctorate of Education, with one proposed dropped major. She also noted that the MA in Audiology will suspend admission to their program this spring, anticipating dropping that program when the last student graduates. There are four proposed dropped minors. There are 123 new course proposals with a total of 66 proposed dropped courses with a balance of 57 additional courses, including all graduate and undergraduate curriculum courses. Twenty-seven of the new courses are from the new MSW, which was approved by the Board some time ago and has been funded by the Iowa legislature. Thirteen of the new courses are internships or practicums, which indicates the continued effort to link students with their future professions and provide more experiential learning.

Chair Power noted that any typographical or format errors should be brought to Diane Wallace's attention, editor of the catalog. Omissions should be brought to Vice President Koch's attention.

Senator Kashef questioned the funding for the new courses given the present budget concerns. Dr. Koch noted that when department head and deans review the curriculum packet, they are asked to consider the economic issues, to determine whether or not they can afford the new course or program. Those reviews preceded the Curriculum Committee's decision to support the programs and courses.

Provost Podolefsky noted that there is a net difference of 57 courses, 27 of which are in the MSW, which are funded by \$450,000 special legislative base budget funds. Six new faculty were hired in that department to cover. Thirteen are internships or practicums that are not organized sections which the faculty does "out of the goodness of their hearts" and which are not charged against the budget. Thus, there is a net gain of 17 that are unrelated to the cost of running the institution, which he intends to tell the Regent's. If a new course is introduced, which is taught once a year, and an old course, which used to be taught twice a year but is now only taught once a year, there is no net change in cost. At departmental levels, the importance is how often you offer a course, not how many course are in the catalog. There are close to 2500 courses in the catalog; 17 is a very small net gain. The real question is how many sections of those courses are offered.

Senator Kirmani commented that these new courses are filling a need, they are making UNI a better place for the students.



Senator Terlip asked for clarification on the new course, Internet Marketing, with a marketing major prerequisite, and that it is also on the Marketing Minor. Is the intent that only Marketing Majors can take it? Dr. Koch stated that she will check back with the department for clarification. Senator Terlip also noted that on page 6, under the new Performance and Training Technology (College of Education), it refers to 240:245 as a new course but she was unable to find it in the packet. It was noted that the course description is on the bottom of the first page of the College of Education.

Chair Power noted that the committee has done an extraordinary job, as this has been an enormous undertaking to put this all together.

Senator Herndon noted that there is a lot of raising of GPA's to be admitted to different programs. She questioned if this is an option to overcome grade inflation and what will this do to the student's that can't make it. Dr. Jackson responded that at the graduate level, departments always have the prerogative to admit students provisionally, allowing them to take up to nine hours, and evaluate their ability to successfully matriculate. Thus, it may not be as much as a barrier as it looks, and programs routinely exercise that option, to admit provisionally. Dr. Koch commented that at the undergraduate level it is used more of an enrollment management strategy. We are seeing more of it, and will see more of it, as a seat in a class becomes a precious resource. The students that cannot make it may asked for special consideration. The definition of the rule may vary from department to department. The reality may be when a student finds he cannot be admitted to one major, they may go to another, with General Studies (Liberal Arts Core) being the obvious one.

Senator vanWormer, Department of Social Work, commented that the Social Work degree is a professional degree and students are prepared with a bachelor's degree to practice social work. They decided that they should go with at least a 2.4 GPA.

Keith Crew, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology, noted that there was an apparent lack of communication with the Graduate Curriculum Committee regarding the proposed M.A. in Criminology. The Department will withdraw that proposal from this year's curriculum packet for two reasons. The Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology's strategy was to submit the proposal with required core courses that were intended to be developed once additional faculty were hired. The committee wanted to see fully developed course proposals as a part of the packet and the Department simply did not have time to do that. Dr. Crew noted that the second reason was the faculty

issue. Not only did they not have the opportunity to expand their faculty this year, they were down two faculty positions. There will be no way that that major can be offered even if it is approved for the next catalog cycle; 2004 will be the earliest that that program can be offered. The only option was to withdraw it with the understanding that they will resubmit it next year. This was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Senator Pohl moved to call for a vote; second by Senator vanWormer. Motion was passed.

The motion on the floor was to approve the curriculum changes as submitted by the UNI Curriculum Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Power thanked the committee and to the Senator's for taking the time to look at the materials.

Motion to adjourn by Senator Pohl; second by Senator Basom.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Submitted by  
Dena Snowden, Faculty Senate Secretary